



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

January 28, 2010

Mr. Danny D. McClendon
Chief, Regulatory Branch
St. Louis District, Corps of Engineers
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

Re: P-2745

Dear Mr. McClendon:

Reference is made to the application by Limited Leasing Company, c/o Mr. Brian Viehmann, for a Department of the Army permit authorizing commercial sand and gravel dredging activities between Mississippi River miles 201.2 - 218.3, in Jersey and Madison County, Illinois and St. Charles County, Missouri.

The applicant, formerly known as St. Charles Sand Co., is requesting renewal of an existing permit allowing the dredging of sand and gravel from a seventeen-mile reach within Alton Pool of the Mississippi River. Special conditions previously appended to the permit place limits on the specific areas that may be dredged based on the locations of known heron/egret rookeries, bald eagle roosting sites and other sensitive biological resources, as well as structures such as dikes and bridge abutments.

While the Department has no objections to the proposed permit renewal, we do wish to recommend an additional special condition. As you may be aware, the Powdermill Bed Illinois Natural Areas Inventory Site, a significant freshwater mussel bed that supports at least three state threatened/endangered species, lies between river miles 215.5 - 217.0 along the Illinois (left descending) side of the channel. We ask that no dredging activity be permitted in this area or within one-half mile upstream (mile 217.5).

Please contact me at 217-785-4863 if the Department can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Schanzle
Permit Program Manager
Office of Realty and Environmental Planning

RWS:rs 1-01(10)

cc: Mr. Brian Viehmann, IDNR/OWR (Diedrichsen), IDNR/ORC (Atwood, Phipps), IEPA (Yurdin),
MDOC (Sternburg), USFWS (Collins), USEPA (Pierard)